

Restoration - Cable Road Unauthorized Routes (FINAL)

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APP # 700491

A. List of Restoration Activities

This project proposes to protect and halt further OHV destruction to a portion of National Forest System lands along Cable Road on the Placerville Ranger District, Eldorado National Forest. The project area is in the urban intermix zone where residential neighborhoods of Pollock Pines and Camino are intermingled with undeveloped land. This area sustains heavy OHV use and resource damage resulting in crushed vegetation, hillside erosion, user created mud pits and tree root damage. User created OHV trails lead to many trash dump sites and the area is an eyesore to forest visitors and the surrounding community neighborhood. This area was identified in the public involvement and transportation section of the Independence Fuels Reduction Project Environmental Analysis as having OHV use related resource damage. The fuels reduction project completed in this area was fully supported by the local community and provided for discouraging further unauthorized OHV use by restoring old skid trails and landings using barriers, water bars and mulching. Unfortunately, this did not stop the area from being impacted by heavy OHV use and the resource damage quickly became evident (see photos).

The Forest would like to stop further degradation of the area by controlling OHV traffic by installing rock and gate barriers and restoring the damaged areas by installing signs, placing straw mulch and preparing the ground for planting of native vegetation. Restoration of the area will consist of installing barrier devices to prevent vehicles from illegally going off road. These barrier devices may be in the form of mounds of soil, gates or barrier rocks. Branches, small trees and down logs from the vicinity would be placed to provide obstructions for travel and disguise from easy detection. The restoration would include use of either a Sweco trail dozer or an excavator to break up the compacted layers of soil with ripper teeth, the tines of the excavator bucket, or in some instances with hand tools. Where feasible, the land forms would be restored and stabilized. Ground cover in the form of nearby natural leaf and litter or certified weed free straw would be spread over the bare soil to reduce erosion. The trail restoration would be monitored for the next few years to determine if activities were effective for closure and restoration.

B. Describe how the proposed Project relates to OHV Recreation and how OHV Recreation caused the damage:

As described in the previous section, travel by motor vehicles off of designated routes has crushed vegetation, caused soil compaction and damage, erosion, etc. Some use is concentrated in mud pits located off of the designated routes, which now serve as attractions for unauthorized OHV use. Other designated roads exist in the Cable Road area which serve day use visitors and are used for travelling for pleasure and access sites used for hiking, target shooting, hunting, etc. Continued degradation of the Cable Road area would result in continued resource damage and complaints from the local community resulting in a negative reflection of the Forest Service mission to protect public land from resource damage and a negative reflection on OHV recreation.

C. Describe the size of the specific Project Area(s) in acres and/or miles

The total amount of area to be restored is approximately 5 acres.

D. Monitoring and Methodology

The project includes monitoring both for the effectiveness of the restoration and subsequent incursions into the restored areas. The sites will be visited by patrollers on a regular basis throughout the year to assure that the restored areas are not receiving unauthorized OHV use. Photo monitoring points will also be established within the project area to allow for measuring and recording the success of the restoration efforts. These points will be re-photographed at least two times each year for three years, and the results documented in a report. This area is highly visible to the recreation public and has the potential to reflect positively on the agency's efforts to restore and protect scenic rivers.

E. List of Reports

N/A

F. Goals, Objectives and Methodology / Peer Reviews

N/A

G. Plan for Protection of Restored Area

As described under the monitoring section, the site will be visited by patrollers on a regular basis to assure the closure is still effective, that the signs are in place, and the restored area has not received further impacts.

Additional Documentation

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1. Project-Specific Maps

Attachments:

[Cable Project Area Map](#)

[Location and Site Map](#)

2. Project-Specific Photos

Attachments:

[Cable Project - Before Photos](#)

Project Cost Estimate

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:		Version # _____	APP # _____
APPLICANT NAME :	USFS - Eldorado National Forest		
PROJECT TITLE :	Restoration - Cable Road Unauthorized Routes (FINAL)	PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) :	G09-02-03-R04
PROJECT TYPE :	<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition <input type="checkbox"/> Development <input type="checkbox"/> Education & Safety <input type="checkbox"/> Ground Operations <input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restoration		
PROJECT DESCRIPTION :	<p>This project proposes to protect and halt further OHV destruction to a portion of National Forest System lands along Cable Road on the Placerville Ranger District, Eldorado National Forest. The project area is in the urban intermix zone where residential neighborhoods of Pollock Pines and Camino are intermingled with undeveloped land. This area sustains heavy OHV use and resource damage resulting in crushed vegetation, hillside erosion, user created mud pits and tree root damage. User created OHV trails lead to many trash dump sites and the area is an eyesore to forest visitors and the surrounding community neighborhood. This area was identified in the public involvement and transportation section of the Independence Fuels Reduction Project Environmental Analysis as having OHV use related resource damage. The fuels reduction project completed in this area was fully supported by the local community and provided for discouraging further unauthorized OHV use by restoring old skid trails and landings using barriers, water bars and mulching. Unfortunately, this did not stop the area from being impacted by heavy OHV use and the resource damage quickly became evident (see photos).</p> <p>The Forest would like to stop further degradation of the area by controlling OHV traffic by installing rock and gate barriers and restoring the damaged areas by installing signs, placing straw mulch and preparing the ground for planting of native vegetation. Restoration of the area will consist of installing barrier devices to prevent vehicles from illegally going off road. These barrier devices may be in the form of mounds of soil, gates or barrier rocks. Branches, small trees and down logs from the vicinity would be placed to provide obstructions for travel and disguise from easy detection. The restoration would include use of either a Sweco trail dozer or an excavator to break up the compacted layers of soil with ripper teeth, the tines of the excavator bucket, or in some instances with hand tools. Where feasible, the land forms would be restored and stabilized. Ground cover in the form of nearby natural leaf and litter or certified weed free straw would be spread over the bare soil to reduce erosion. The trail restoration would be monitored for the next few years to determine if activities were effective for closure and restoration.</p>		

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
DIRECT EXPENSES							
Program Expenses							
1	Staff						
	Recreation Planner	2.000	300.000	DAY	0.00	600.00	600.00
	Archeologist	1.000	285.000	DAY	0.00	285.00	285.00
	Other-Restoration Crew	10.000	180.000	DAY	1,800.00	0.00	1,800.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010
Agency: USFS - Eldorado National Forest
Application: Restoration - Cable Road Unauthorized Routes (FINAL)

3/1/2010

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	Other-LEO	5.000	350.000	DAY	0.00	1,750.00	1,750.00
	Other-Forest Protection Officer	10.000	200.000	DAY	2,000.00	0.00	2,000.00
	Other-Contracting Officers Representativ	3.000	375.000	DAY	1,125.00	0.00	1,125.00
	Total for Staff				4,925.00	2,635.00	7,560.00
2	Contracts						
	Other-Barrier Rocks Installed Notes : Cost includes cost of transporting barrier rocks to the site and installation. The Match is based on the value of the barrier rocks contributed by Forest Service.	75.000	125.000	EA	7,125.00	2,250.00	9,375.00
3	Materials / Supplies						
	Other-Mulch	10.000	20.000	PKG	200.00	0.00	200.00
	Other-Native Grass seed and Tress	1.000	500.000	PKG	250.00	250.00	500.00
	Signs	15.000	40.000	EA	600.00	0.00	600.00
	Total for Materials / Supplies				1,050.00	250.00	1,300.00
4	Equipment Use Expenses						
	Other-SWECO	1.000	500.000	EA	250.00	250.00	500.00
	Other-Mileage	200.000	0.500	MI	0.00	100.00	100.00
	Total for Equipment Use Expenses				250.00	350.00	600.00
5	Equipment Purchases						
6	Others						
7	Indirect Costs						
	Indirect Costs-billing and record	1.000	2000.000	YR	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
	Total Program Expenses				13,350.00	7,485.00	20,835.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010
Agency: USFS - Eldorado National Forest
Application: Restoration - Cable Road Unauthorized Routes (FINAL)

3/1/2010

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES					13,350.00	7,485.00	20,835.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES					13,350.00	7,485.00	20,835.00

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010
Agency: USFS - Eldorado National Forest
Application: Restoration - Cable Road Unauthorized Routes (FINAL)

3/1/2010

	Line Item	Grant Request	Match	Total	Narrative
DIRECT EXPENSES					
Program Expenses					
1	Staff	4,925.00	2,635.00	7,560.00	
2	Contracts	7,125.00	2,250.00	9,375.00	
3	Materials / Supplies	1,050.00	250.00	1,300.00	
4	Equipment Use Expenses	250.00	350.00	600.00	
5	Equipment Purchases	0.00	0.00	0.00	
6	Others	0.00	0.00	0.00	
7	Indirect Costs	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	
Total Program Expenses		13,350.00	7,485.00	20,835.00	
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES		13,350.00	7,485.00	20,835.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		13,350.00	7,485.00	20,835.00	

Environmental Review Data Sheet (ERDS)

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ITEM 1 and ITEM 2

ITEM 1

- a. ITEM 1 - Has a CEQA Notice of Determination (NOD) been filed for the Project? ☐ Yes ☒ No
(Please select Yes or No)

ITEM 2

- b. Does the proposed Project include a request for funding for CEQA and/or NEPA document preparation prior to implementing the remaining Project Deliverables (i.e., is it a two-phased Project pursuant to Section 4970.06.1(b)) (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

ITEM 3 - Project under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378

- c. ITEM 3 - Are the proposed activities a "Project" under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378? ☒ Yes ☐ No
(Please select Yes or No)
- d. The Application is requesting funds solely for personnel and support to enforce OHV laws and ensure public safety. These activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No
- e. Other. Explain why proposed activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. DO NOT complete ITEMS 4 – 10

ITEM 4 - Impact of this Project on Wetlands

This project is not expected to adversely affect wetlands, streams, creeks, or any threatened, endangered, or other special status species, based on the environmental analyses completed (2010 Decision Memo). The project does not involve any streams, creeks or wetlands and is designed to improve water quality through reducing surface erosion. The restoration project is also designed to improve areas of compacted soil from unauthorized motor vehicle use in the impacted area, thus reducing the potential for erosion.

ITEM 5 - Cumulative Impacts of this Project

No cumulative impacts are expected from implementation of this project. The areas that are being restored are not areas that are open to OHV travel, and so will not change overall use patterns or displace users. This project is designed to reduce the potential for cumulative watershed impacts.

ITEM 6 - Soil Impacts

This project will not have adverse effects on steep slopes or highly erodible soils. The restoration efforts will include controlling vehicle travel onto disturbed areas, thus limiting further erosion. Areas of compacted soil will be ripped and mulched.

ITEM 7 - Damage to Scenic Resources

This project area does not include any State Scenic Highways nor is it visible from a State Scenic Highway.

ITEM 8 - Hazardous Materials

- Is the proposed Project Area located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (hazardous materials)? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the location of the hazard relative to the Project site, the level of hazard and the measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the hazards.

ITEM 9 - Potential for Adverse Impacts to Historical or Cultural Resources

Would the proposed Project have potential for any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

Discuss the potential for the proposed Project to have any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources.

The project has been reviewed by an archaeologist and a determination was made that the project will not have an adverse effect on historical or cultural resources.

ITEM 10 - Indirect Significant Impacts

The project is not likely to cause indirect significant impacts. As described previously, the area that is being restored is not open to motor vehicle use and so will not change overall use patterns in the area or in other parts of the Eldorado National Forest.

CEQA/NEPA Attachment

Attachments:

[Decision Memo](#)

Evaluation Criteria

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1. Project Cost Estimate - Q 1. (Auto populates from Cost Estimate)

1. As calculated on the Project Cost Estimate, the percentage of the Project costs covered by the Applicant is: 3

(Note: This field will auto-populate once the Cost Estimate and Evaluation Criteria are Validated.) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ 76% or more (10 points)
☐ 51% - 75% (5 points)
☒ 26% - 50% (3 points)
☐ 25% (Match minimum) (No points)

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Q 2.

2. Natural and Cultural Resources - Failure to fund the Project will result in adverse impacts to: 2

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- ☐ Domestic water supply (4 points)
☐ Archeological and historical resources identified in the California Register of Historical Resources or the Federal Register of Historic Places (3 points)
☐ Stream or other watercourse (3 points)
☒ Soils - Site actively eroding (2 points)
☐ Sensitive areas (e.g., wilderness, riparian, wetlands, ACEC) (2 point each, up to a maximum of 6) Enter number of sensitive habitats
☐ Threatened and Endangered (T&E) listed species (2 point each, up to a maximum of 6) Enter number of T&E species
☐ Other special-status species- Number of special-status species (1 point each, up to a maximum of 3) Enter number of special-status species

Describe the type and severity of impacts that might occur relative to the checked item(s):

Continued degradation in the Cable Road area would result in complaints from the local community resulting in a negative reflection of the Forest Service mission to protect public land from resource damage. and a negative reflection on OHV recreation. In addition, the ongoing dumping of trash poses a health hazard and potential fire risk.

3. Reason for Project - Q 3.

3. Reason for the Project 4

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ Protect special-status species or cultural site (4 points)
☒ Restore natural resource system damaged by OHV activity (4 points)
☐ OHV activity in a closed area (3 points)
☐ Alternative measures attempted, but failed (2 points)
☐ Management decision (1 point)
☐ Scientific and cultural studies (1 point)
☐ Planning efforts associated with Restoration (1 point)

Reference Document

Eldorado National Forest Travel Management Environmental Impact Statement
Eldorado National Forest Land Management Plan Management Area 24
Independence Fuels Reduction Environmental Analysis

4. Measures to Ensure Success - Q 4.

4. Measures to ensure success –The Project makes use of the following elements to ensure successful implementation 8

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 2 points each (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Site monitoring to prevent additional damage
- ☒ Construction of barriers and other traffic control devices
- ☒ Use of native plants and materials
- ☐ Incorporation of universally recognized 'Best Management Practices'
- ☒ Educational signage
- ☐ Identification of alternate OHV routes to ensure that OHV activities will not reoccur in restored area

Explain each item checked above:

The project consists of controlling OHV traffic by installing rock and natural barriers and restoring the damaged areas by installing signs, placing straw mulch and preparing the ground for planting of native vegetation. Native materials would be placed to provide obstructions for travel and disguise from easy detection. The restoration would include use of equipment and hand tools to break up the compacted layers of soil with ripper teeth, the tines of the excavator bucket. Where feasible, the land forms would be restored and stabilized. Ground cover in the form of nearby natural leaf and litter or certified weed free straw would be spread over the bare soil to reduce erosion. The project includes monitoring both for the effectiveness of the restoration and subsequent incursions into the restored areas. The sites will be visited by patrollers on a regular basis. Photo monitoring points will also be established to allow for measuring and recording the success of the restoration efforts.

5. Publicly Reviewed Plan - Q 5.

5. Is there a publicly reviewed and adopted plan (e.g., wilderness designation, land management plans, route designation decisions) that supports the need for the Restoration Project? 5

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ No (No points) ☒ Yes (5 points)

Identify plan

Eldorado National Forest Travel Management Environmental Impact Statement
Eldorado National Forest Land Management Plan Management Area 24
Independence Fuels Reduction Environmental Analysis

6. Primary Funding Source - Q 6.

6. Primary funding source for future operational costs associated with the Project will be: 0

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ Applicant's operational budget (5 points)
- ☐ Volunteer support and/or donations (3 points)
- ☐ Other Grant funding (2 points)
- ☒ OHV Trust Funds (No points)

If 'Operational budget' is checked, list reference document(s):

7. Public Input - Q 7.

7. The Project was developed with public input employing the following 2

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 1 point each, up to a maximum of 2 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Publicly noticed meeting(s) with the general public to discuss Project (1 point)
☒ Conference call(s) with interested parties (1 point)
☒ Meeting(s) with stakeholders (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

Multiple public meetings and conference calls were conducted for both the Eldorado National Forest Travel Management Environmental Impact Statement regarding the designation of roads for use and the need for restricting impacted areas. These meetings and conference calls were publicly noticed through letters and emails, press releases and posting on our website. Phone calls and other public comments from stakeholders received in relation to the Independence Fuels Reduction Environmental Analysis requested that the Forest address the issues of vehicle use off of Cable Road and associated resource impacts. Stakeholders from the local community have continued to contact the Forest regarding the need for restoration efforts in this area.

8. Utilization of Partnerships - Q 8.

8. The Project will utilize partnerships to successfully accomplish the Project. The number of partner organizations that will participate in the Project are 0

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ 4 or more (4 points) ☐ 2 to 3 (2 points)
☐ 1 (1 point) ☒ None (No points)

List partner organization(s):

9. Scientific and Cultural Studies - Q 9.

9. Scientific and cultural studies will

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- ☐ Determine appropriate Restoration techniques (2 points)
☐ Examine potential effects of OHV Recreation on natural or cultural resources (2 points)
☐ Examine methods to ensure success of Restoration efforts (1 point)
☐ Lead to direct management action (1 point)

Explain each item checked above

10. Underlying Problem - Q 10.

10. The underlying problem that resulted in the need for the Restoration Project has been effectively addressed and resolved 3

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ No (No points) ☒ Yes (3 points)

Explain 'Yes' answer

The Forest will stop further degradation of the area by controlling OHV traffic by installing rock and gate barriers and restoring the damaged areas by installing signs, placing straw mulch and preparing the ground for planting of native vegetation. As described under the monitoring section, the site will be visited by patrollers on a regular basis to assure the closure is still effective, that the signs are in place, and the restored area has not received further impacts.

11. Size of sensitive habitats - Q 11.

11. Size of sensitive habitats (e.g., wilderness, riparian, wetlands, ACEC) within the Project Area which will be restored 1

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ Greater than 10 acres (5 points)
- ☐ 1 – 10 acres (3 points)
- ☒ Less than 1 acre (1 points)
- ☐ No sensitive habitat within Project Area (No points)